

REMARKS

Applicants reply to the Examiner's comments in the Advisory Action mailed on June 15, 2007, and submit these remarks and amendments. Applicants request that the Examiner consider the amendments and remarks prior to examining the above-referenced patent application after RCE. Claims 1, 3-5, 39, and 40 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejects claims 1, 3-5, 39, and 40. Support for the amendments may be found in the originally-filed specification, claims, and figures. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration of the pending claims is requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 3-5, 39 and 40 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,327,578 issued to Linehan ("Linehan"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies during the call with Applicants' counsel on July 26, 2007 and the follow-up email with suggested claim amendments. Applicants further thank the Examiner for providing input and confirming that the above claim amendments would differentiate the present invention from Linehan. Applicants amend the claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. As such, based on the above amendments, Applicants assert that the above rejection is now moot.

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims properly set forth that which Applicants regard as their invention and are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience, if that would help further prosecution of the subject application. Attorney for Applicants authorizes and respectfully requests that any fees due be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-2814, including any required extension fees.

Respectfully submitted,


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